

CLAIMS

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A method for use in a communications network to  
5 proactively assist a user in locating one or more web pages stored  
on servers connected to said communications network, each web page  
containing subject matter related to the user's chosen general  
area of interest, said method comprising the steps of:

10 presenting the user with an option of either selecting a  
specific web page or selecting one of a plurality of subject  
categories;

15 displaying a plurality of said subject categories, each said  
subject category identified by a subject heading and being  
associated with a set of one or more web pages, each said web  
page represented by a separate channel number, wherein each said  
set of web pages contain content related to a particular said  
subject category;

20 if the user selects said one of said plurality of subject  
categories,

displaying one or more said channel numbers, each said  
channel number corresponding to one or more web pages containing  
subject matter related to said selected subject category;

allowing the user to select said one of said displayed  
channels; and

displaying web page content corresponding to said selected channel.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of  
5 displaying channel content summary descriptions to enable the user to identify subject matter content of each said channel, and displaying subject category information comprising subject matter related to said selected subject category.

10 3. The method of claim 1 wherein prior to the step of allowing the user to select said one of said displayed channels, allowing the user to initially select one of a plurality of classifications wherein upon said initial selection, and prior to a subsequent selection of a different classification, a different  
15 set of subject categories is presented for each said selected classification.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein said classification is a language and wherein upon said initial selection, text in each  
20 subsequent display will be in the selected language.

5. The method of claim 2 wherein said subject category information comprising subject matter related to said selected subject category includes advertisements, logos and/or text.

6. The method of claim 3 wherein said steps of selecting said subject category, selecting said channel, and/or selecting said classification is performed by pointing and clicking on a 5 button on a remote control image situated on the user's computer screen.

7. A system for use in a communications network to proactively assist a user in locating one or more web pages stored 10 on servers connected to said communications network, each web page containing subject matter related to the user's chosen general area of interest, said method comprising:

means for providing the user with an option of either selecting a specific web page or selecting one of a plurality of 15 subject categories;

means for presenting the user with a list of said plurality of said subject categories, each said subject category being associated with a set of one or more web pages wherein each said set of web pages contain content related to a particular said 20 subject category;

means for selecting said one of said plurality of subject categories,

means for displaying one or more said channel numbers, each said channel number corresponding to one or more web pages

containing subject matter related to said selected subject category;

means for allowing the user to select said one of said displayed channels; and

5 means for displaying web page content corresponding to said selected channel.

8. The system of claim 7 further comprising channel content summary descriptions to enable the user to identify 10 subject matter content of each said channel, and subject category information comprising subject matter related to said selected subject category.

9. The system of claim 7 further comprising means for 15 allowing the user to initially select one of a plurality of classifications wherein upon said initial selection, and prior to a subsequent selection of a different classification, a different set of subject categories is presented for each said selected classification.

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10. The system of claim 9 wherein said classification is a language and wherein upon said initial selection, text in each subsequent display will be in the selected language.

11. The system of claim 8 wherein said subject category information comprising subject matter related to said selected subject category includes advertisements, logos and/or text.

5       12. The system of claim 7 wherein said means for selecting said one of said plurality of subject categories, means for allowing the user to select said one of said displayed channels and means for allowing the user to initially select one of a plurality of classifications comprises a remote control image  
10 displayed on the user's computer screen.

13. A method for use in a communications network to proactively assist a user in locating one or more web pages stored on servers connected to said communications network, each web page  
15 containing subject matter related to the user's chosen general area of interest, said method comprising the steps of:

displaying a plurality of subject categories, each said subject category being identified by a subject heading and associated with a set of one or more web pages, each said web page  
20 represented by a separate channel number, wherein each said set of web pages contain content related to a particular said subject category;

allowing the user to initially select one of a plurality of languages wherein upon said initial selection, and prior to a

subsequent selection of a different language, a different set of subject categories is presented for each said selected language;

displaying one or more said channel numbers, each said channel number corresponding to a web page containing subject matter related to said selected subject category;

displaying channel content summary descriptions to enable the user to identify subject matter content of each said channel;

displaying subject category information comprising subject matter related to said selected subject category;

10 allowing the user to select said one of said displayed channels; and

displaying web page content corresponding to said selected channel.

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